

Michiana Tree Board Meeting

September 12, 2024

11:00 A.M. (EST)

The meeting was held in person at the Village Hall.

Attendees:

Council member Nancy Thill called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. (EST) Also, present were Karen Szyp, Rick Reitz and Clerk Anne Heywood. Anne Blasko and Andrew Aronson, were excused and no residents were present.

Reports: Butterfly Garden Update: Nancy noted that Pizzo was part of the original design of the garden over by the creek. Nancy met with Serviscape and Mike Mumper regarding the garden area. They talked about scraping 10ft off from the garden location. Nancy explained we have stewardship warranty work that we paid for with Pizzo. Nancy said she was brought in to work with the new Rep Beth from Pizzo to finish the work that the Village had paid for and never completed.

Old Business:

1. **MDNR FY2024 Financial Report to be completed** – The group worked on finalizing time sheets for the grant. Needed to record hours worked on the trees including meetings attended.
2. **Arbor Day 2024 information** – Will be held on October 5th at 11:00am EST at the Village. Anne Blasko will take the lead heading Arbor Day. The color guard will be present, Nancy will pick a delegate, TJ will read the “Proclamation” which is required by the Tree City USA. Nancy will work on details with Anne Blasko.
3. **MDNR FY2025** – The Board decided to wait on applying for another grant until the current one is completed and wrapped. The current grant needs to show what the expenditures are so far as of September 30th, 2024. The final completion date for this grant is September 1, 2025.
4. **Tree Watering Committee** – Andrew will take charge of watering trees until the new irrigation system is in place and can be scheduled for watering the different zones.
5. **Placement of 5 small trees in park** – The group decided to place the Dogwood over by electrician panel by the new pavilion, 2 Iron Woods would be planted on each side of split rail fence where the chain connects the two split rail fences, and the Black Gum tree down along Cherokee near the Bocci Ball Court. The Sugar maple, which is the memorial tree for the Sheahan Family, will be placed in the park near the Hemlock.

New Business:

1. **Tree Planting committee** – Nancy said the planting of the trees is being turned over to Mike Mumper to oversee, since he is working on the grating, irrigation and the hydro seeding of the park.
2. **Tree Kits** - Nancy reminded the board the we still have Red Maple Tree Kits available for \$10 to raise funds.
3. **Tree City USA deadline 12/31/2024** – In order to be recertified in the Tree City USA the Village must follow the guidelines which we are by hosting another Arbor Day.
4. **Expand the Membership to** - The group talked about maybe expanding the members 5 or 7 more residents.
5. **Next Tree Board Meeting TBD**

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne